

Approved 8/8/17

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES

June 19, 2017
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden MA

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino
The meeting was called to order by John Flynn at 6:00 pm.

School Issues: Heather Zanetti and Mary Ellen Glover were present to discuss a presentation they saw put on by MARS at a recent School Committee meeting. Mary Ellen explained that the presenter would be willing to re-present the information at a Selectmen's meeting. His presentation gave options for review, suggested there could be different assessments for the TWB school, which Mary Ellen is not in favor of, we could have a facilitator come in to mediate, and Mary Ellen explained that she would mediate to a pre-determined outcome; i.e., keeping two schools open in Hampden. She will forward contact information for this presenter. The board could not comment on the status of the legal action involving the School Committee.

Mary Ellen brought forward information on voting down the budget which would require a two town vote. The Town Moderator had stated that the budget could not be voted down, although it has happened in other communities, and the SC was allowed to spend 1/12th of the budget.

Police Department: Chief Farnsworth came before the board to discuss the status of the Regional Dispatch group. There will be 26 positions needed for the new RECC in total, 3 positions for Chicopee, 3 each for Hampden, East Longmeadow and Longmeadow. There are currently only 8 full time positions in all towns; there will be no reduction in pay scale; longevity and salary, insurance and retirement will all be covered under the agreement for new hires.

The forms the board will sign tonight will hold us to proceeding with the agreement, until final numbers are distributed, as all towns will have an out when they see final costs. The technology part of it will cost approximately \$900,000 for all police and fire lines, and DPW will have its lines relicensed as well.

Once the board signs tonight, we have three weeks to get it submitted, then the state will determine the amount they will contribute.

Given this information, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to proceed with signing the documents, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

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Chief Farnsworth also brought up the issue of a Reserve Officer who resigned and who has been on as a reserve for only a matter of months.

Also noted is that Sgt. Bill Joy will be retiring in August and further details will follow.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc